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Plainly Malaspina

Malaspina University College - A View from the Depths

Plainly Malaspina is printed on paper derived entirely from rags, and has no ~~good~~ wood content whatsoever.

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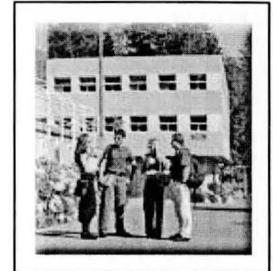
Do You Have a View:

Readers' comments, letters to the editor as well as unsolicited opinion pieces are more than welcome: just send them by e-mail to black@mala.bc.ca.

However, PM reserves the right to edit submissions for brevity and good taste, and to respond to them in these pages.

Dendric Cleansing Receives Vital Boost

CAMPUS TO BE TREE-FREE BY 2006



Most outsiders see Malaspina as a haven for moon-faced tree-huggers who cannot face up to the realities of the modern world of resource exploitation.

However, that myth is finally being laid to rest by widespread support for the continuing initiative to rid the Nanaimo campus of dangerous and unsightly trees.

According to officials, trees are a nuisance for two reasons: first, they could cause major injuries in the case of an earthquake, alien invasion or other disaster; second, they provide cover for would-be assailants.

There are a number of cases documented at other institutions where falling hawthorn bushes, for example, have been responsible for bruised toes and damage to clothing. Sources could not specify the exact number at this time.

Perhaps more important from the campus safety point of view are the benefits of removing hiding-places for assailants.

“The intent is to prevent muggers, terrorists and suchlike from waiting unseen behind a tree for an unsuspecting victim. Once every tree has been rooted out, assailants will be forced to hide instead behind buildings, low walls, bike lockers, signboards, food and drink kiosks and portly administrators, all of which, we hope, they will find less hospitable,” said one official, who was unable to specify his exact name at this time.

The aptly-named “Holocaust of Trees” is of course not simply a stand-alone project. It is part of a co-ordinated campaign, involving cladding environmentally unsound wooden buildings, blacktopping ecologically challenged waste ground and eliminating odorous rabbit-habitat, aimed at purifying the campus in visual as well as biological terms.

This project is financed by the sensible diversion of discretionary funds which might otherwise have been frittered away on bursaries for students or overseas summer junkets for Liberal Studies professors.